

DEPARTMENT OF BACTERIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY
HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL
25 SHATTUCK STREET
BOSTON 15, MASSACHUSETTS

February 7, 1956

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics
University of Wisconsin
Madison 6, Wisconsin

Dear Dr. Lederberg,

Most strains of Salmonella grow at various rates with histidine as sole carbon source. However, unfortunately, the strain with which most of the work of the Demerec group has been performed (i.e. S. typhimurium, LT-2), like most of the commonly used strains of E. coli, is unable to utilize histidine as sole carbon source. Strain LT-2 will degrade histidine by reductive deamination to urocanic acid, thus showing a residuum of a pathway apparently present in other Enterics, including other S. typhimurium strains.

I would greatly appreciate receiving several strains of S. typhimurium, including LT-7, sensitive to PLT-22 phage. I have obtained a strain of (labeled) S. typhimurium (#10139), but this does not serve as an indicator for PLT-22 phage. This is a requirement since I wish to transduce LT-2 to growth on histidine, if possible; this ability does not appear to be acquired by mutation in LT-2.

Thank you very much for your attention to this request.

Very truly yours,


Philip E. Hartman